

Paula Marks
301 HEMLOCK DRIVE
HEALDSBURG CA 95448

Aug 29th 2018

Via ECFS
Marlene H. Dortch, Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20554

**Re: In the Matter of Petition of USTelecom for Forbearance Pursuant to
47 U.S.C. Section 160(c); WC Docket No. 18-141; Category 1**

Dear FCC,

My home is in Sonoma County and while not damaged during the fires of October 2017 we were on alert for immediate evacuation for nearly a week.

From the beginning of the fires and for nearly 2 weeks both internet and wireless service was difficult or non-existent for many of my neighbors. However, my service with Sonic was never down.

When the fires were raging I was able to give neighbors information and updates because my service with Sonic was working. This included my 102 year old neighbor who would not leave her home with her caregiver until absolutely necessary! We were among the lucky ones who did not have to evacuate or lose our homes.

We are limited to what carriers are available to us in our 55+ neighborhood here in Healdsburg and having reliable internet, telephone and wireless service is not only important but potentially life affecting.

Everyone needs service they can rely on and afford. Competition provides this for seniors and everyone else. And reliable service can save lives.

Thank you for your attention and consideration.

Paula Marks